...L MOBSTERS FLOOD E. CLARK RIOTS THAT WRECKED RESIDENCE

Judge Directs Release of Chief of Police Charged With Omission of Duty

SHERIFF'S TESTIMONY IGNORED

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Nobody will be punished by Cook County in connection with the infamous Cicero anti-Negro riot which occurred last July in the all-white Chicago suburb of Cicero.

This result was assured last week when Judge Frank "palpable omission of duty" in Leonard of Criminal court directed the jury to deliver a verdict of not guilty in the trial of Police Chief Erwin Konovsky of Cicero.

Konovsky faced charges of connection with the riot because he and his police officers failed to enforce law and order and failed to disperse a mob.

All this happened because Harvey E. Clark Jr., a Negro, and his wife and two children rented an apartment at 6139 W. 19th street in Cicero. Mobs up to 6,000 gathered around the building July 10-12 when the Clarks moved their family belongings into the apartment they expected to be their home.

Before order was restored, martial laws was declared and the National Guard was called into action. The Clarks lost their family possessions, and 19 other families living in the building had to move out.

Although Clark, Mrs. Camille De Rose, owner of the building at the time of the riot; Atty. George C. Adams, her attorney at the time of the riot and now said to be owner of the building itself, and others told of the rough treatment given them by police officers in Cicero, the judge felt that the chief was not guilty.

Also testifying for the prosecution was Russell Babcock, executive director of the Illinois Commission on Human Relations, who was on the scene of the riot. He told how inactive the police were in quelling the disturbances.

Charles Edwards, Negro agent for the building, told the court that he had shown the apartment to several Negroes, but that in each case Cicero police took down their names, addresses and telephone numbers.

Most damaging evidence was given by Sheriff John Babb, who although a witness for the prosecution apparently provided fuel for the ultimate decision. The sheriff told the court:

"This disturbance was caused by people schooled in stirring up riots. The city and county police did the best they could . . . the only tales of violence come from people who make a profession of agitation."

On the basis of this statement, Floyd E. Thompson, former chief justice of the Illinois Supreme court and Konovsky's attorney, moved for a directed verdict of not guilty. Thompson had declared that the citizens of Cicero were peaceful, and did not actually participate in the riot.

In issuing his directed verdict, Judge Leonard declared:

"It is the duty of the state to prove the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. This has not been done. I therefore direct the jury to sign a verdict of not guilty.

Commenting on this decision, Clark said:

"What do you expect? I'm not a bit surprised. I hope for better luck in the federal case against Konovsky."

The Chicago Sun-Times blamed State's Atty. John Boyle and Prosecutor James A. Brown for the loss of the case. It noted that Brown had a record of racial opinions in other cases before taking over this one. In an editorial, "Muffing the Cicero Riots Case," the daily said:

". . . From what the public now knows of Brown, there is reason to doubt whether he really had his heart in the prosecution of the case . . .

"In the final analysis, the fact that justice has not been served in the Cicero case is more important than who is to blame for the failure. It is frightening to realize that mobs can prevent anyone—not only Negroes—from moving into certain neighborhoods in Cook county without fear of punishment under our statutes.

"The last chance for serving justice rests with the federal courts, where Konovsky will be tried, along with other Cicero officials, for violating the civil rights of Harvey Clark jr., central figure in the riots."

Clark, who at the time of the riot worked as a bus driver, now works for a local sausage company as a top salesman. He lives in the Michigan Boulevard Garden apartments, popularly knows as the Rosenwald building, with his family.

Police Chief Acquitted In Cicero Case

By International News Service

Chicago—Criminal Court Judge Frank R. Leonard late Thursday directed a verdict of acquittal in the jury trial of Cicero police chief Erwin Konovsky on charges of misconduct in connection with riots in the suburbs last July.

The judge upheld the contention of defense attorney Floyd Thompson that the police chief could not be held responsible for the action of his officers in the racial disturbance.

The state wound up its case with the testimony of Harvey E. Clark, a former Chicago Transit Authority bus driver whose attempts to move into an apartment building in Cicero were blocked by the riots.

Clark, a Negro, testified that Cicero police tossed him out of the apartment he had rented (at 6139 W. 19th Street) and indicated that the incident spurred the crowd to violence that followed.

State troopers were called out to quell the riots, which occurred on July 10, 11, and 12.

Clark said he, and his wife, Johnetta, and four friends were inspecting the apartment when a Cicero policeman brandished a revolver and ordered them to the street. He added:

"At the door I was booted out either by Konovsky or another policeman. The crowd had been quieted but it cheered at this sight. Then Konovsky shoved me toward my car."

Cicero's Guilty Ask New Trial

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Two Cicero officials and two town policemen were found guilty last week in connection with last year's anti-Negro riot in the all-white suburb of Cicero.

Charges against one police officer were dismissed.

After hearing two weeks of testimony in the U. S. District Court of Judge Walter J. LaBuy, an all-white jury of seven women and five men found the following men guilty:

Police Chief Erwin Konovsky, Town Atty. Nicholas Berkos, Police Sgt. Roland Brani and Patrolman Lange.

Charges of denying Clark his civil rights were dismissed against Berkos. Police Officer Frank Janecek was found not guilty.

Judge LaBuy will pronounce sentence June 23, and he also will rule on motions by the four guilty defendants for a new trial. Konovsky is subject to maximum sentence of two years and $2.000; a year and a $1.000 fine on each count, and the other three men are subject to maximum sentences of a year and $1.000 fine.

The jury deliberated about five hours before announcing its decision. This action came nearly eleven months after mob violence protesting the moving of Clark's family into an apartment in Cicero startled the whole world.

Surging crowds at one time reaching a total of 6,000 persons, all white, startetd the Cicero riot July 10, 1951, when Clark, a World War II veteran, and Harvey III, moved their family possessions into an apartment at 6139 W. Nineteenth Street in Cicero.

* * *

THE MOBSTERS looted the apartment of Clark and destroyed his family possessions. White families living in other apartments in the marked building were forced to move. Violence was not haltetd until July 12 when Gov. Adlai Stevenson was forced to call out the Illinois National Guard.

Clark and his family now live in the Michigan Boulevard Garden Apartments.

NEW YORK—The conviction in a Federal District Court of four law enforcement officials in the Cicero riot case "is most encouraging," Thurgood Marshall, special counsel of the NAACP, said in a wire to Leo F. Tierney, who was appointed special assistant attornrey-general to prosecute the case.

CICERO TRIAL OF SEVEN RIOTERS ENTERS FIFTH DAY IN CHICAGO

Beach Dispatch
Pat. 5-31-52

Victims of Violence Appear as Witnesses In Trial of Savage Defendants

P. 3

TELL OF THREATS TO THEIR CHILDREN

Chesapeake City Ohio

CHICAGO — (ANP) — The trial of seven Cicero officials entered its fifth day Friday as Federal Judge Walter J. LaBuy heard evidence in connection with an anti-Negro riot last July in the suburban town of Cicero, Ill.

The Cicero officials, all white, are facing two counts—conspiring to keep a Negro family from moving into an apartment building at 6139 W. 19th street, and depriving the Negro family involved of equal protection under the law as called for under the 14th amendent of the U. S. constitution.

Among witnesses who have testified in the case are Harvey E. Clark jr. and his wife, Johnetta, victims of the riot action; Charles Edwards, Negro realty agent for the building who tried to rent the apartment, and Dr. Clarence B. Geary, assistant psychiatrist at Cook county hospital, who had taken interest in the apartment before the Clarks looked it over.

Facing trial are Town President Henry S. Sandusky, Police Chief Erwin Konovsky, Town Atty. Nicholas Berkos, Fire Marshal Theodore H. Wesolowski, Police Sgt. Roland Brani and Police Officers Frank A. Lange and Frank Janecek.

Most dramatic story of how the Clarks were kept out of Cicero, an all-white town, was told by Mrs. Clark. She told the district court of the fatal day, July 10, of the beginning of the riot. She said when she and the Clark children, Michele, 9, and Harvey III, 7, approached the building, a man asked:

"Where will your kids go to school? I want to know so I can have my kids beat them up."

Another told her, "Wait until tonight.'

During that day, she said, people began to gather around the building, and the children asked, "Why are all those people there?"

"That was enough," she said. "I didn't want my children to know about such things. I took them to the home of relatives in Gary, Ind." (her home town). "I was supposed to go back at 8 o'clock that night. As I approached Cicero, the sheriff's police stopped me and advised me not to return. I haven't been back." Defense attorneys did not cross examine her. Clark also testified. He described a June incident when he tried to move into the place at an earlier date. He said Chief Konovsky told him: "Get out of here and get out of here fast, and don't ever come back, you . . . " Edwards told the jury that he tried to interest four other Negro families in the apartment before the Clarks rented it, but they were forced away by police. Dr. Geary said when he looked over the apartment in March, 1951, two officers told him:

"What do you want? We've got orders to take you people into custody when you come out here."

The Cicero riot brought national and international attention to Chicago and the middle west. As a result of the violence, the apartment building involved was heavily damaged, and the Clark's personal property was destroyed. White families living in the building were forced to move out.

As many as several thousand mobsters, all white and many from Chicago and nearby areas, gathered on the scene to loot, burn and throw stones at the building. Cicero police did little to halt the violence. Finally, Governor Adlai Stevenson had to call out the Illinois National Guard to restore order.

Since then, a Cook county grand jury investigation and subsequent trial resulted in no one being punished. The county grand jury actually indicted three Negroes, including Clark's attorney, George N. Leighton, plus the white owner of the building, Miss Camille De Rose, a so-called "red," and Chief Konovsky. Only Konovsky was tried, as the other indicements were quashed, and he was found not guilty on a directed verdict.

Evidence Bared Of Conspiracy Plot In Cicero

Afro-American
P. 1
Baltimore
Barred Vet, Wife, 2 Others Testify City Heads Backed Mobs

Pat. 5-31-52

CHICAGO (ANP)—The trial of seven Cicero officials entered its fifth day Friday as Federal judge Walter J. LaBuy heard evidence in connection with the infamous riot last July in the suburban town of Cicero, Ill.

The Cicero officials, all white, are facing two counts—conspiring to keep a war veteran's family from moving into an apartment building at 6139 W. 19th St., and depriving them of equal protection under the law as called for under the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Among witnesses who have testified in the case are:

Harvey E. Clark Jr. and his wife, Johnetta, victims of the riot action; Charles Edwards, colored realty agent for the building, who tried to rent the apartment; and Dr. Clarence B. Geary.

Dr. Geary, assistant psychiatrist at Cook County Hospital, had taken interest in the apartment before the Clarks looked it over.

Officials Face Trial

Facing trial are Town President Henry S. Sandusky, Police Chief Erwin Konovsky, Town Atty. Nicholas Berkos, Fire Marshal Theadore H. Wesolowski, Police Sgt. Roland Brani and Police Officers Frank A. Lange and Frank Janecek.

Most dramatic story of how the Clarks were kept out of Cicero, an all white town, was told by Mrs. Clark, who testified to the District Court of the fatal day, July 10, of the beginning of the riot.

She said when she and the Clark children, Michele, 9, and Harvey 3rd, 7, approached the building, a man asked: "Where will your kids go to school? I want to know so I can have my kids beat them up."

Threats Heard, Mob Gathers

Another told her, "Wait until tonight."

During that day, she said, people began to gather around the building, and the children asked, "Why are all those people there?"

"That was enough," she said. "I didn't want my children to know about such things. I took them to the home of relatives in Gary, Ind. (her home town).

"I was supposed to go back at 8 o'clock that night. As I approached Cicero, the sheriff's police stopped me and advised me not to return. I haven't been back."

Not Cross Examined

Defense attorneys did not cross examine her.

Clark also testified. He described a June incident when he tried to move into the place at an earlier date. He said Chief Konovsky told him:

"Get out of here and get out of here fast, and don't ever come back, you..."

Edwards told the jury that he tried to interest four other colored families in the apartment before the Clarks rented it, but they were forced away by police.

Dr. Geary said when he looked over the apartment in March, 1951, two officers told him:

"What do you want? We've got order to take you people into custody when you come out here."

The Cicero riot brought national and international attention to Chicago and the Middle West.

As a result of the violence, the apartment building involved was heavily damaged, and the Clark's personal property was destroyed. White families living in the building were forced to move out.

State Guard Called Out

As many as several thousand mobsters, all white and many from Chicago and nearby areas, gathered on the sceen to loot, burn and throw stones at the building.

Cicero police did little to halt the violence. Finally Gov. Adlai Stevenson had to call out the Illinois National Guard to restore order.

Since then, a Cook County grand jury investigation and subsequent trial resulted in no one being punished.

The county grand jury actually indicted three colored persons, including Clark's attorney, George N. Leighton, plus the white owner of the building, Miss Cammille De Rose, a so-called "red," and Chief Konovsky.

Only Konovsky was tried, as the other indictments were quashed; and he was found not guilty on a directed verdict.

The Federal grand jury investigation was ordered later.

Bomb Rocks Home After Phone Calls

KANSAS CITY—A crude bomb shattered several windows of a colored home in a formerly all-white neighborhood, early Wednesday, after the occupants had received several threatening phone calls.

The bomb was thrown through an open window into the home in the 2700 block of The Paseo, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Crittenden and Miss Morlene Johnston.

Damages were kept to a minimum by the quick action of Miss Johnston, who scooped the bomb up and tossed it onto a driveway where it exploded.

Cicero Riot Witnesses Take Stand

Courier
P. 5
Pittsburgh Pa.

CHICAGO—The trial of seven Cicero officials entered its fifth day Friday as Federal Judge Walter J. LaBuy heard evidence in connection with an anti-Negro riot last July in the suburban town of Cicero.

Pat. 5-31-52

The Cicero officials, all white, are facing two counts—conspiring to keep a Negro family from moving into an apartment building at 6139 W. Nineteenth Street, and depriving the family involved of equal protection under the law as called for under the Fourteenth Amendment of the U. S. Constitution.

AMONG WITNESSES who have testified in the case are: Harvey E. Clark Jr. and his wife, Johnetta, victims of the riot action: Charles Edwards, realty agent for the building, who tried to rent the apartment, and Dr. Clarence B. Geary, assistant psychiatrist at Cook County Hospital, who had taken interest in the apartment before the Clarks looked it over.

Facing trial are Town President Henry S. Sandusky, Police Chief Erwin Konovsky, Town Atty. Nicholas Berkes, Fire Marshal Theodore H. Wesolowski, Police Sgt. Roland Brani and Police Officers Frank A. Lange and Frank Janecek.

TWO CICERO OFFICIALS AND PAIR OF TOWN POLICEMEN FOUND GUILTY AT FEDERAL HEARING

Riot Charges Sustained Against Men Who Permitted Law and Order to Break Down

JURY DELIBERATES FIVE HOURS

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Two Cicero officials and two town policemen were found guilty last week in connection with last year's anti-Negro riot in the all white suburb of Cicero. Charges against one police officer were dismissed.

After hearing two weeks of testimony in the U. S. District court of Judge Walter J. LaBuy, an all white jury in seven women and five men found the following men guilty:

Police Chief Erwin Konovsky on two counts—conspiracy to deny Harvey E. Clark Jr., Negro who was the central figure in the rioting, his civil rights, and denying Clark his civil rights in violation of the federal civil rights statute.

Town Atty. Nicholas Berkes for conspiring to deny Clark his civil rights.

Police Sgt. Roland Brandi and Patrolman Frank Lange for denying Clark his civil rights.

Charges of denying Clark his civil rights were dismissed against Berkes. Police officer Frank Janecek was found not guilty.

Judge LaBuy will pronounce sentence on June 23, and he also will rule on motions by the four guilty defendants for a new trial. Konovsky is subject to maximum sentence of two years and $2,000, a year and a $1,000 fine on each count, and the other three men are subject to maximum sentences of a year and $1,00 fine.

The jury deliberated about five hours before announcing its decision. This action came nearly 11 months after mob violence protesting the moving of Clark's family into an apartment in Cicero startled the whole world. It promises the first punishing of any kind of persons connected with the rioting.

Surging crowds at one time reaching a total of 6,000 persons, all whites, started the Cicero riot July 10, 1951 when Clark, a World War II veteran and a graduate of Fisk university; his wife, Johnetta, and two children, Michelle and Harvey III, moved their family possessions into an apartment at 6139 W. 19th st. in Cicero.

The mobsters, with headstrong teen agers taking the lead, looted Clark's apartment and destroyed his family possessions. White families living in other apartments in the marked building were forced to move. Violence was not halted until July 12 when Gov. Adlai Stevenson was forced to call the Illinois National Guard.

A number of mobsters and guardsmen were injured and martial law was declared before peace was finally restored.

A Cook county grand jury investigated the case and reported indictments which completely surprised the Chicago area. Cited in the true bills were three Negroes and two white persons not even on the scene of the riot and Konovsky.

Negroes named in this grand jury action were Atty. George Adams, said to be the present owner of the building and attorney for the white owner of the marked edifice; Atty. George N. Leighton, now president of the Chicago NAACP and also attorney for Clark, and Charles Edwards ,rental agent for the building.

Also accused by the grand jury were Mrs. Camille De Rose, original owner of the place, and Norman Silverman who appeared on the riot scene some two weeks atfer the violence and was said by the jury to have distributed "Red literature."

These five persons were accused of conspiracy to cause the people of Cicero to start a riot because they encouraged Clark to move into Cicero. Konovsky was charged with failure to perform his duty of enforcing law and order during the violence.

Clark now is reported to have been employed as district manager for a distillery. At the time of the riot he worked as a bus driver for the Chicago Transit Authority ,but had to quit the job because too many people asked him questions about the riot. He then took a job as a top salesman with a local sausage firm.

He and his family now live in the famed Michigan Boulevard Garden Apartments, better known as the Rosenwald building.

U.S. Jurist Also Censures Owner Of Apt.

Fines For Cops Stayed Pending Counsel's Appeals

CHICAGO (NNPA) — Judge Walter J. LaBuy in Federal District Court here last Monday fined three defendants in the Cicero riot case a total of $2,500 and costs and censured the owner of the apartment where the rioting occurred and her attorney for "reprehensible plotting" which, he said, led to the racial clashes.

The apartment owner is Mrs. Camille DeRose, into whose building Harvey E. Clark Jr., attempted to move his family in the all-white town of Cicero, a Chicago suburb. The lawyer is George C. Adams, who was operating the property at the time of the riots.

Denied New Trials

Judge LaBuy fined Police Chief Erwin Konovsky the sum of $2,000 and costs, and Police Sergt. Roland Brani and Policeman Frank A. Lange, $250 each. He denied their motions for new trials, but continued a similar motion on behalf of Nicholas Berkos, town attorney.

Konovsky, Brant and Lange were convicted by a jury last June 4 on charges of violating the federal civil rights law. In addition, Konovsky and Berkos were convicted of conspiring to deprive the Clarks of their federal civil rights.

The government contended that the defendants failed to protect Mr. Clark and to disperse the mob that gathered last July when he attempted to move his family into the apartment building.

Judge LaBuy said the rioting "created a sordid chapter in the history of our metropolitan community, where racial tensions are being resolved with increasing tolerance and understanding." He added:

"This event did not originate on account of altruistic desires to obtain homes to relieve the overcrowded conditions of Colored persons.

"Rather its inception stemmed from the revengeful motives of a landlady in difficulty with her tenants and the avaricious scheme of her attorney to obtain an unconscionable profit on the apartment building under threats of renting the apartments to colored people.

Fines Stayed

"It was the reprehensible plotting of the landlady and her attorney which culminated in this most unfortunate occurrence."

The fines were stayed until July 28 to allow appeals to be taken. Floyd E. Thompson, defense attorney, announced this would be done.

Mrs. DeRose is in the Cook County jail under a two-year sentence imposed by Judge Wilbert F. Crowley in Criminal Court June 13. She uttered a tirade in his court and was found to be carrying a loaded revolver.

Her outburst occurred when Judge Crowley granted a continuance of the trial of Adams who is charged with embezzlement growing out of his dealings with Mrs. DeRose. Adams is a colored lawyer.

Mob Scars Still Mar Riot Site

By LEE BLACKWELL

The building at 6139 W. 19th st. was quiet Monday, except for the barking of dogs and the sound of distant fire engines. Some children played hopscotch nearby.

But the boarded and abandoned building stood ugly and desolate on the first anniversary of the Cicero riots, mute testimony to the violence of 5,000 people, driven by race hate.

This usually peaceful west Chicago suburb of 70,000 persons erupted last July 10-12 when Harvey E. Clark, jr., an Air Force veteran of World War II, attempted to move his family into a third floor flat in the lily-white town.

Those three nights of terror were to spread the infamy of Cicero around the world and change the destiny of people in many walks of life. What has the past year meant to those who felt the wrath of the Cicero fury?

The lawyers, George Leighton and George C. Adams, were cleared of conspiracy to cause the riot. So was the rental agent, Charles Edwards, and the woman who sold the property, Miss Camille DeRose.

Five flights up in a clean Southside apartment, the Harvey Clarks are salvaging the broken threads of the past and are weaving a new life.

The Clark children; Michele, 9, and Harvey III, 7, are enrolled in Coleman school and the memory of the terror of Cicero has been practically erased from their youthful minds.

Thanks to an appeal by a New York radio commentator, Michele has a new piano to replace the one destroyed by the howling mob, last summer.

Clark, 30, a graduate of Fisk university, is a district sales manager for the Kentucky distilling company.

The riot mob destroyed everything Clark and his wife, Johnetta, had accumulated in nine years of marriage, including their marriage license.

Later in the eventful year, Adams, attorney for Miss DeRose, former owner of the building, narrowly escaped prosecution for embezzlement by Miss DeRose.

The climax of a stormy and tragic year for Miss DeRose came last month when she was committed to the mental hospital at Kankakee.

That strife-torn block in Cicero now stands like a no-man's land in a community of neat lawns and trim trees. Weeds have to

Printed posters, bearing the mark of the Superior Court of Cook County, proclaim that the building has been turned over to a receiver.

A soft wind rattled a plank bearing the scrawled message, "Out for lunch." It rustled the scarred trees and died away like the faint echo of a howling national guards-men trampled as they restored order out of chaos.

Cicero

Civil Rights Violations Charged

Four Cicero officials and three policemen were informed Monday they must stand trial May 19 for alleged violation of citizens' civil rights during riots in the Chicago suburb last year.

The seven failed in an attempt to have indictments against them dismissed when Federal Judge Walter LaBuy upheld the true bills and ordered the trial to begin as scheduled.

The highly publicized case grew out of a series of riots last July when Harvey Clark Jr., attempted to move his family into an apartment at 6139 W. 19th st. in Cicero.

The officials, all of whom entered not guilty pleas, are: Mayor Henry J. Sandusky, Police Chief Erwin Konovsky, Fire Marshal Theodore H. Wesolowski, Town Attorney Nicholas Berkos and Policemen Roland Brani, Frank Janecek and Frank A. Lange.

Defense Lawyer Floyd E. Thompson argued the indictments were too general and failed to specify in what particulars the officials and policemen failed in their duties.

A state court previously acquitted Chief Konovsky on a similar charge. Still pending before Federal Judge Barnes is Clark's $200,000 damage suit against Chief Konovsky and the town of Cicero.

Clarks Ask $4,500 For Cicero Loss

Harvey Clark jr., 30, and his wife, Johnetta, 27, have filed suit against Cook county seeking to recover three-fourths of the alleged property loss they suffered in the Cicero rioting last July.

Clark, through Atty. William R. Ming jr., asked $4,500 last week. Under Illinois law a person may recover from the county government 75 per cent of the property loss he suffered from action by a mob of more than 12 persons.

The rioting was touched off July 10-12, 1951, when Clark and his family attempted to move into an apartment building in Cicero, which was badly damaged by a mob of 5,000.

The Courts Take Their Course

One year ago, Harvey Clark, Jr., World War II veteran, seeking to escape the crowded city of Chicago and looking for a comfortable place to move his family, journeyed to Cicero, Ill. and rented an apartment.

At the time, little did Harvey know that two other Negroes had sought to reside in Cicero, only to be told that Negroes were not wanted in the exclusive white city, at one time the stronghold of the infamous Al Capone.

After Clark had secured the apartment, then came moving. On the day that his household furnishings were being moved in many threats were hurled at the couple and they was told that "Negroes were not wanted" in Cicero. The moving was completed over the protest of hoodlums gathered outside of the apartment. That night, rioters began to throw the possessions of the Clarks out of the apartment, destroy the property and set fire to the household goods, with no apparent efforts being made by the police to stop them.

The rioting continued and was not quelled until Governor Adelai Stevenson ordered the State National Guard into the area to restore order.

The communist press sought to "play up" the riot and further their cause why Americans should support the communist cause.

Last week a very important decision was handed down by the federal courts of Illinois in the Cicero case.

The decision found that the Cicero Police department had failed to adequately protect Harvey Clark, Jr., and his wife, Johnetta, from mob violence when he attempted to move his family into the apartment he had rented in the surburbs of Cicero.

The decision resulted in the Cicero police chief, Ervin Konovsky, and two of his aides, Sgt. Roland Brani and Patrolman Frank Lange, being found guilty of violating the Civil Rights of the Clarks.

The jury hearing the testimony against the seven officials of Cicero, was composed of 12 white persons. They heard Ralph Hartsough, a white businessman, relate that he saw only one policeman try to stop the rioters with no others helping him.

He said when he asked another officer why nothing was being done, he received this reply: "Colored People are trying to move in. Our chief warned these people to stay out."

The jury listened attentively as The Cook County Highway police chief, testified that the Cicero police could have broken up the mob, but failed to exert themselves.

Some members of the Cicero police department even testified before the jury. A member of the department, Charles J Kucera, stated that he heard police sergeant Roland Brani, give an order to Patrolman Frank A. Lange to "Chase" the Clarks out of town.

The decision rendered by the Federal Courts of Illinois in the Cicero case was indeed a very important one, some may term it a partial justice but it should serve as a fair warning to others.

Clarks Strike Back At Cicero Officials

Conviction Of 4 In Riot Paves Way For $200,000 Damaae-Suit

CHICAGO (ANP) — The Harvey Clarks, jubilant over a jury verdict which convicted two town officials and two policemen for their part in the infamous Cicero riot, are preparing to press a $200,000 damage suit against the town.

Clark, a World War II veteran, and his wife were prevented three times from moving into an apartment they had rented in Cicero during July, 1951.

THE HARVEY CLARKS

On the third occasion, a mob of some 5,000 surrounded the apartment house and seriously damaged it, wrecking all of the Clarks' belongings in a theee-day hate orgy. It was necessary for the National Guard to be called out to restore order.

A local grand jury failed to indict any of the persons behind the riots and it was necessary for a before indictments were returned Federal grand jury to be called against town officials and policemen who failed to prevent the mob from carrying out its dastardly project in an effort to keep Cicero lily-white.

After hearing two weeks of testimony in the U.S. District court of Judge Walter J. LaBuy, an all white jury of seven women and five men found the following men guilty:

Police Chief Ervin Konovsky on two counts of conspiracy to deny Clark his civil rights, and denying Clark his civil rights in violation of the Federal civil rights statute;

Nicholas Berkos, Town Atty., for conspiring to deny Clark his civil rights;

Police Sgt. Roland Brani and Patrolman Frank Lange for denying Clark his civil rights;

INDICT 5 IN CAIRO BLAST AT NEGRO DOCTOR'S HOME

Cairo, Ill., May 13 (AP)—Grand jury indictments against five white men in connection with the January bombing of the home of Dr. Urbane Bass, a Negro physician, were announced today. An earlier grand jury declined to indict and Illinois Atty. Gen. Elliott ordered the evidence presented again.

The indictments charge the five with bombing, malicious mischief, and conspiracy. An Alexander county Circuit grand jury returned the indictments yesterday to Judge Clarence Wright of Carbondale. They were suppressed until today.

The bombing resulted from a dispute over Negro children entering Cairo schools, which previously had been attended only by white pupils. Indictments named Robert Hogan, a car salesman; Kenneth Sullivan, an electrical contractor; C. H. Miller, a lumber mill employe; Ervin Kreitner, a radio shop employe, and James McKee. All are Cairo residents.

Cicero Cops Fined $2500 In Riot Case

THREE OF FOUR Cicero, Ill., town officials found guilty of failing to protect the rights of a Negro family were fined a total of $2500 in U. S. District Court in Chicago last week.

Chief of Police Erwin Konovsky was assessed $2000 and Sgt. Roland Brani and Patrolman Frank A. Lange of the police force were ordered to pay $250 each on charges they denied civil rights to Harvey E. Clark, Jr. and his family.

The Clark's effort to move into a previously white apartment building touched off a race riot during which the building and their furniture were damaged by fire. The disturbance was finally quelled by national guardsmen.

Konovsky and Village Atty. Nicholas Berkes also were found guilty of conspiring to allow a mob to try and drive the Clarks from the town.

RACES:

Convictions in Cicero

Last July, Cicero, Ill., dingy west Chicago suburb—known as Al Capone's town during Prohibition days—was the scene of a bloody three-day race riot (NEWSWEEK, July 23, 1951). For a week the nation's headlines chronicled the story of mob violence touched off when Harvey E. Clark Jr., a 29-year-old Negro bus driver, Air Force veteran, and Fisk University graduate, tried to move his family into the all-white community.

Investigation revealed that many Cicero policemen had done nothing to curb the rioters. And a month before the riot, witnesses charged, Patrolman Frank Lange had burst into the Clark flat while the Negro veteran and friends were conferring with a rental agent, and ordered them to leave at gun point. It further developed that Erwin Konovsky, the burly Cicero police chief, had shoved Clark into the street and threatened: 'I'll put a bullet through your head if you ever come back."

The Feds Move In: In September, a Cook County Grand Jury indicted Konovsky for malfeasance and four other persons who sided with Clark in the dispute for conspiring "to injure property by causing a depreciation in the realty value for renting to Clarks." None of the rioters was cited and a month later all the indictments, except the one against Konovsky, were dismissed. Konovsky subsequently was acquitted.

Then the Justice Department moved in. A special Federal grand jury indicted seven Cicero policemen and town officials, including Konovsky and Lange, for violating or conspiring to violate the Federal civil-rights statute.

Last week the case went to the jury. Henry J. Sandusky, who had been re-elected town-board president before the trial opened, was acquitted together with two others. But the remaining four, including Konovsky and Lange, were convicted. The police chief faced a possible sentence of two years plus a $2,000 fine.

Police chief and two officers fined for riot

CHICAGO, June 24 — (AP) — The chief of police and two policemen of suburban Cicero were fined a total of $2500 yesterday as the results of riots last July touched off when a Negro family attempted to move in to the all-white suburb.

Federal Judge Walter J. Labuy fined Chief Erwin Konovsky $2000 and Sgt. Roland Brani and Patrolman Frank A. Lange $250 each.

The three were convicted by a federal jury on June 4 of denying the civil rights of Harvey E. Clarke Jr., a Negro who attempted to move his family into a Cicero apartment. The jury also found Konovsky guilty of conspiring to deny the civil rights of Clarke.

* * *

A MOB ESTIMATED AT 5000 rioted in the suburb intermittenly during three days, until Illinois National Guard troops and police restores order. Clarke never moved into the apartment.

Nicholas Berkos, Cicero town attorney, also convicted of conspiracy, will be sentenced June 28. Three other defendants were found innocent. They were Mayor Henry J. Sandusky, Fire Marshal Theodore Wesolowski and Patrolman Frank Janecek.

Judge Frees Cicero Riot Town Attorney

CHICAGO — (ANP)—Although pronounced guilty by a federal jury in a recent trial in connection with last year's Cicero riot, Nichola Berko, town attorney, was freed last week by U.S. District Court Judge Walter J. LaBuy.

Judge LaBuy set aside the jury's verdict on grounds of insufficient evidence. He already had fined Police Chief Erwin Konovky $2,000 and Police Sgt. Roland Brani and Patrolman Frank Lange $250 each in connection with the riot. All three have filed appeals.

This action is just one of a series of aftermath events in connection with riot. The victim, Harvey E. Clark Jr. and his family of four, have sued Cook county for damages in connection with the destruction of their family posessions.

In another action, Mrs. Camille DeRose, former owner of the building damaged by the mobsters, recently was freed from the state mental institution, Kankakee State Hospital. She was declared sane after spending about three weeks there following a violent court session.

In that court hearing (she is suing her former attorney, George C. Adams, colored, now said to be the owner of the building) for tricking her out of the building. She caused an uproar in the courtroom.

Judge Wilbert F. Crowley sentenced her to ten years in jail for contempt of court in connection with that action. The sentence was withheld when she was judged to be not sane.

The enraged residents of the town, people a little lower than middle class on the whole, tried to destroy the apartment building in which he had moved his furniture. There had never been a colored person living in Cicero.

The governor of the state called out the state militia to quell the disturbance, but the name of Cicero became infamous all over the world as a stellar example of bad race relations. Oh yes, the new name the residents of Cicero wish to take is "Normandy."

Attorney Wins Case in Suit By Cicero Landlady

CHICAGO — (ANP) — The Cicero anti-Negro riot of July, 1951 virtually became a closed case last week when Mrs. Camille De Rose, white landlady of the riot building, lost her suit charging fraud against her colored attorney, George C. Adams, 63.

Mrs. De Rose had charged Adams, who was her lawyer at the time of the writer and who later bought the building from her, with embezzlement. She accused him of defrauding her of $8,500 in the purchase of a mortgage of the building.

Judge Daniel A. Covelli of Criminal court after hearing three day of testimony acquitted Adams.

Evidence in the case revealed that Mrs. De Rose asked Adams to go into partnership with her on the mortgage, but he told her he had no money. She is then said to have accepted his note for $4,250.

Since the suit was filed the mortgage has been renegotiated and Mrs. De Rose has received a return of $9,565 on her original $8,500, according to testimony.

The building in question is located in the all-white suburb of Cicero. It was the target of white mobsters when a Negro family moved its belongings into one of its apartments.

Today, it stands boarded up—a ghost of its old —with no tenants, no income, and apparently no repairs in immediate sight, a monument to the work of the rioters.

3 Policemen Fined In Cicero Case

CHICAGO, Illinois — Three Cicero policemen were fined Tuesday for violating the civil rights of a Negro during riots in the Chicago suburb last July.

U. S. District Judge Walter J. Labuy sentenced the officers after denying their motion for a new trial.

He fined Chief of Police Erwin Konovsky $2,000 and Sgt. Roland Brani and Patrolman Frank A. Lange $250 each.

A federal jury found Konovsky guilty earlier in the month of conspiracy and of denying the civil rights of Harvey E. Clark, Jr., and his family in preventing them from moving into an apartment building in the suburb.

Brani and Lange were convicted on charges of denying Clark's civil rights.

Town attorney Nicholas A. Berkos was also found guilty on a conspiracy count.

The charges grew out of the failure of Cicero officials to curb mob violence in front of the building into which the Clark family had tried to move.

Judge Labuy postponed sentencing of Berkos until June 28.

Cicero Riot Town Wants To Hide Its Shame With New Name Of Normandy

CICERO, Ill. (ANP)—A petition is being circulated in Cicero which seeks state permission to change the name of this little city next to Chicago.

The fierce publicity given to Cicero during the past few years, has made the name of the village a stench in the nostrils of decent people all over the world, its better citizens are said to believe.

Wherever they go in America or Europe, when the name Cicero is mentioned, people raise their eyebrows in disdain, some residents complain.

Stevenson Acts Promptly

The latest blot on Cicero's name, of course, was the vicious mob action last year when Harvey Clark, a colored veteran, sought to move into an apartment in Cicero.

Cicero And American Justice

A jury of seven women and five men in the federal district court of Judge Walter J. LaBuy have found four law enforcement officials of Cicero guilty of violating or conspiring to violate the civil rights of the Harvey Clarks. This verdict makes it clear to the world that the ends of justice will be served in America.

The three-day Cicero riot which shocked the nation last July has been used as a propaganda weapon by the enemies of our democracy at home and abroad. That such inhuman outrages should occur, of course, is a supreme tragedy but there is no doubt now where the nation stands on the issue. Rioting is not the American way. The jury lived up to the ideals of the republic.

We are confident that their verdict will be sustained and upheld in the appeals which are planned to higher courts. The conviction stands as a forthright and unmistakable warning that the un-American activities of the race-crazed elements in the population will not be countenanced. It gives promise and hope to those who suffer racial violence that their citizenship will not forever be abused.

Our society embraces many racial and religious groups and the differences between them must be resolved and reconciled with justice to all if we ever hope to fulfill the dreams of our founding fathers. A high sense of justice and an abiding faith in our democratic concepts must govern and direct our thoughts and actions. This is the mortar between the bricks of the edifice we call America and without it our nation cannot stand.

Racism is a creeping cancer that erupts here and there and taxes the skill and intelligence of the most able among us. Unlike cancer, however, we have a cure for racism. This cure is prescribed in the Constitution of our country and we have got to take it even though there are those to whom it is bitter medicine. No quack remedies, no socio-political aspirin can do this job. To each individual must be given the liberties that are his by natural and divine right.

The rioters in Cicero must be taught the true American way of life. They must learn to appreciate the basic principles which undergird our republic and which have inspired those who built this nation. This lush land belongs to all our citizens regardless of race, creed or color. It belongs equally to the black boy and the white boy who fight together on the hilltops in Korea to defend it.

That is democracy.

Find Four Guilty In Cicero Case

Two Cicero officials and two town policemen were found guilty last week in connection with last year's anti-Negro riot in the all white suburb of Chicago. Charges against one police officer were dismissed.

After hearing two weeks of testimony in the U. S. District court of Judge Walter J. LaBuy, an all-white jury of seven women and five men found the following men guilty.

Police Chief Erwin Konovsky on two counts—conspiracy to deny Harvey E. Clark jr., Negro who was the central figure in the rioting, his civil rights, and denying Clark his civil rights in violation of the federal civil rights statute.

Town Atty. Nicholas Berkos for conspiring to deny Clark his civil rights.

Police Sgt. Roland Brani and Patrolman Frank Lange for denying Clark his civil rights.

Charges of denying Clark his civil rights were dismissed against Berkos. Police officer Frank Janecek was found not guilty.

Judge LaBuy will pronounce sentence on June 23, and he also will rule on motions by the four guilty defendants for a new trial.

Konovsky is subject to maximum sentence of two years and $2,000, a year and a $1,000 fine on each count, and the other three men are subject to maximum sentences of a year and $1,000 fine.

The jury deliberated about five hours before announcing its decision. This action came nearly 11 months after mob violence protesting the moving of Clark's family into an apartment in Cicero startled the whole world. It promises the first punishing of any kind of persons connected with the rioting.

Surging crowds at one time reaching a total of 6,000 persons, all white, started the Cicero riot July 10, 1951, when Clark, a World War II veteran and a graduate of Fisk university, his wife, Johnetta, and two children, Michelle and Harvey III, moved their family possessions into an apartment at 6139 W. 19th st., in Cicero.

The mobsters, with headstrong teen-agers taking the lead, looted Clark's apartment and destroyed his family possessions. White families living in other apartments in the marked building were forced to move.

Violence was not halted until July 12, when Gov. Adlai Stevenson was forced to call the Illinois National Guard.

Special Prosecutor Leo Tierney handled the federal case against the defendants, and Atty. Floyd E. Thompson, former justice of the Illinois State supreme court, represented the defense.

The defendants were shocked and visibly shaken by the decision, and Clark was philosophical. Clark said:

"I regret that such a riot and this case had to come up, but I am glad it has worked out this way as long as the case went to court. This decision is a great blow against discrimination against minority groups.

"It's such a big issue—but it could have been avoided if just one officer had been sensible."

For the defendants who had been enjoying a boxing bout on television, the ruling was a serious blow. onovsky said, "I still don't know what it's all about."

Clark now is employed as district manager for a distellery. At the time of the riot he worked as a bus driver for the Chicago Transit Authority, but had to quit the job, because too many people asked him questions about the riot. He then took a job as a top salesman with a local sausage firm.

He and his family now live in the famed Michigan Boulevard Garden Apartments, better known as the Rosenwald building.

Last Chapter in Cicero

WITH the conviction on June 5, in Chicago's Federal Court of the chief of police, two policemen and the village attorney of Cicero, Illinois, the book was closed on the disgraceful three-day rioting of last July, when these men conspired to violate the Federal civil rights statute.

The forthright action of the Federal Government was commendable and is a warning to mobbists and derelict officials elsewhere the future the civil rights statutes w ave gathered dust on the law books s so many years will hence-forth be rig y enforced.

Congratulations to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for so vigorously and persistently pressing this case to a proper conclusion.

The Harvey E. Clarks are vindicated and should soon be living peacefully and unmolested in Cicero.

4 AT CICERO GUILTY IN RACE-BIAS RIOTS

Federal Jury Finds Conspiracy and Violation of U. S. Civil Rights Law in Negro Ban

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CHICAGO, June—The chief of police, town attorney and two policemen of Cicero, a Chicago suburb, were found guilty early today of violating or conspiring to violate the civil rights of Harvey E. Clark Jr., a Negro.

The trial grew out of riots last July that followed Mr. Clark's attempts to move his family into a Cicero apartment house. The jury of five men and seven women, none a Negro, returned its verdict in the Federal District court of Judge Walter J. LaBuy.

The findings were:

Police chief Erwin Konovsky, guilty of conspiring to violate the Civil Rights law and violation of the law.

Nicholas Berkos, town attorney, guilty of conspiring to violate Mr. Clark's civil rights; not guilty of violation of the law.

Police Serg. Roland Brani, guilty of violation of the law.

Frank A. Lange, policeman, guilty of violation of the law.

The policeman acquitted was Frank Janecek, who was charged with violation of the law.

Jury Nearly Out Five Hours

The jury deliberated for nearly five hours, returning its verdict shortly after midnight.

The Federal trial was the second to grow out of the riots. The first was based on indictments returned by a Cook County grand jury in September against six persons. Charges against all but Konovsky were dismissed by judge Wilbert F. Crowley in the Cook County Criminal Court. Konovsky was later acquitted on a directed verdict by County Judge Frank Leonard of a charge of malfeasance.

Early this spring a Federal grand jury returned indictments. Named, in addition to the principals in the trial that ended today were several other town officials, when Mr. Clark attempted to move into a twenty-family apartment house. The 30-year-old university graduate, who had majored in political science; his wife, Johnetta, and their two children, were driven from the apartment by mobs. Adults and youths stoned the building and set it afire. Gov. Adlai E. Stevenson ordered National Guard troops to take over the area and restore order.

The Federal grand jury investigation was ordered in September by J. Howard McGrath, then At-

but the cases against them were dismissed by Judge Labuy May 27. and for a new trial. Judge Labuy

After today's verdict the defense attorney, Floyd E. Thompson, former Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court, entered motions for a judgment of acquittal not-

Building Stoned, Set Afire

The violence developed in Cicero

torney General, following an appeal to President Truman from Michael Mann, regional director of the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

None of the rioters was named in the Federal indictments.

Mr. Clark, who has since been appointed district manager of a Chicgo distillery, was a Chicago bus driver at the time of the outbreak. He and his wife were the chief witnesses in the Federal trial.

McGranery Lauds Prosecutor

WASHINGTON, June 5 (UP)— Attorney General James P. McGrannery today commended Leo F. Tierney, Chicago lawyer, who won the conviction in the Cicero rioting. Mr. Tierney took a special assignment to prosecute the case

Cicero Riot Figure Goes Gunning For Justice And Gets Two Years

—Mrs. Camille De Rose, who figured prominently in the Cicero riot case, said Saturday she was "sorry" she "lost her temper" before criminal court Judge Wilbert F. Crowley but added she will fight a two-year contempt of court sentence.

Judge Chowley issued the sentence Friday when she brought a partly-loaded .32 calibre revolver to court with her and became violent in court.

The 44-year-old woman is the former owner of the Cicero apartment building where rioting broke out when the family of Harvey Clark attempted to move in last July.

Mrs. De Rose was locked up and the judge ordered her to undergo a psychiatric examination. He promised to decide June 23 whether he will vacate the two-year sentence.

MRS. CAMILLE DE ROSE

Mrs. De Rose told newsmen she believes the judge is "just" and "fair" but that she wants to see justice done following a stormy two years of difficulty in which she was a central figure in the Cicero race riots.

During that time, she related, she has been involved in two grand jury inquiries, a trial, a criminal indictment charging embezzlement, a civil suit charging fraud and a battle with the housing expediter over rent overcharges.

She appeared in court as the complaining witness against Atty. George C. Adams, her former lawyer. Adams was indicted last March on charges that he embezzled $8,500 she gave him to purchase a west side building.

Mrs. De Rose also has a civil suit pending against Adams to recover the Cicero building which she had turned over to Adams.

Convicts Cicero Police Chief

CHICAGO—(INS)— Police Chief Erwin Konovsky and two policemen were found guilty by a federal court Wednesday night of violating the civil rights of a Chicago Negro during rioting in the suburb of Cicero last summer.

Sgt. Roland Brani and Patrolmen Frank Lange were found guilty with Knovsky and a third ifficer, patrolman Frank Janesek was declared innocent.

Cicero town attorney, Nicholas Berkos, also a defendent in the case was found innocent of the civil rights violation charge but guilty of conspiracy.

The case stemmed from failure of the Cicero police department to protect Negro Harvey Clark, Jr., from mob violence when he attempted to move his family into an apartment he had rented in the suburb.

Fines 3 Cops in Cicero Riot; Rips Landlady

Three defendants in the Cicero rioting case were fined yesterday by Judge Walter J. La Buy in federal District court. At the same time, the judge condemned a landlady and her attorney for "reprehensible plotting 'v' which, he said, led to the disorders.

The landlady is Mrs. Camille De Rose, 45, who owned the building at 6139 19th st., Cicero. The attorney is George C. Adams, Negro, who was operating the property at the time of the riots.

Judge La Buy imposed fines of $2,000 and costs on Police Chief Erwin Konovsky and of $250 and costs each on Police Sgt. Roland Brani and Police Frank A. Lange. He denied their motions for a new trial. A similar motion for Town Atty. Nicholas Berkos was continued to July 28.

Four Convicted June 4

On June 4, a jury convicted Konovsky, Brani, and Lange of violating the federal civil rights statute and Konovsky and Berkos of conspiracy to violate the statute. The government contended the defendants failed to protect Harvey E. Clark Jr., Negro, and to disperse the mob that gathered last July when he tried to move into Mrs. De Rose's building.

Judge La Buy commented that the rioting "created a sordid chapter in the history of our metropolitan community, where racial tensions are being resolved with increasing tolerance and understanding." He continued:

"This event did not originate on account of altruistic desires to obtain homes to relieve the overcrowded living conditions of Negroes.

Calls Motive Revenge

"Rather, its inception stemmed from the revengeful motives of a landlady in difficulty with her tenants and the avaricious scheme of her attorney to obtain an unconscionable profit on the apartment building under threats of renting the apartments to Negroes. It was the reprehensible plotting of the landlady and her attorney which culminated in this most unfortunate occurrence."

The fines were stayed until July 28 to allow an appeal to be taken. Defense Atty. Floyd E. Thompson, former Illinois Supreme court justice, announced this would be done.

Last June, Mrs. DeRose rented an apartment to Clark, then a Chicago transit authority bus driver. She had been involved in difficulties over rent control violations and had tried to sell the building to a group of residents of the all-white suburb.

The rioting broke out July 10 when Clark tried to occupy the apartment. He gave up the attempt after three days of disorder, in which his furniture was thrown out and the building was damaged. Units of the Illinois National Guard were called to restore peace.

Mrs. DeRose is in the county jail under a two year sentence of contempt imposed by Judge Wilbert F. Crowley in Criminal court June 13. She had uttered a tirade in his courtroom and had been found to be carrying a loaded revolver.

A motion to vacate the sentence was continued yesterday by Crowley until Thursday to await a report on a criminal court examination of Mrs. DeRose. Her outburst occurred when Judge Crowley granted a continuance of Atty. Adams' trial on an embezzlement charge, growing out of his dealings with Mrs. DeRose.

Four Convicted By U.S. for Role In Cicero Riots

3 Police Accused of Violating Civil Rights Statute, City Attorney of Conspiracy

CHICAGO, June 5 (AP). — The police chief, two policemen and the village attorney of suburban Cicero were convicted last night on charges stemming from race rioting during July in the all-white suburb.

The officials were tried before a Federal court jury on charges of violating or conspiring to violate the Federal civil rights statute. The indictments were returned in connection with the rioting which occurred when Harvey E. Clark jr., a Negro, attempted to move his family into a twenty-apartment building in the community of 70,000.

Three days of rioting, with crowds of 5,000 milling around the apartment building, ended July 12 when five companies of National Guardsmen were sent to the scene.

House Set Afire

Nearly a score of persons were hurt and more than 100 others were arrested during the disturbances. The apartment was set afire and some of Mr. Clark's furniture destroyed.

Police Chief Erwin Konovsky faces a similar punishment on was convicted on two counts, his conviction of conspiracy. He violating the Federal rights statute and conspiracy. He faces a possible maximum sentence of two years in prison and a $2,000 fine.

The two policemen, Sgt. Roland Brani and Frank A. Lange, were convicted of violating the statute crowds from interfering with his and face a possible maximum

Village attorney Nicholas Berkos was convicted of depriving Mr. Clark, twenty-nine, bus driver, of his civil rights by failing to keep efforts to move into the apartment he had rented.

Judge Crowley sentenced each to one year in prison and $1,000 fine each.

On Directed Verdict of Acquittal

Found Not Guilty Of Misconduct In Race Riots

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Nobody will be punished by Cook County in connection with the infamous Cicero anti-Negro riot which occurred last July in the all-white Chicago suburb of Cicero.

This result was assured last week when Judge Frank Leonard of Criminal court directed the jury to deliver a verdict of not guilty in the trial of Police Chief Erwn Konovsky of Cicero.

Konovsky faced charges of "palpable omission of duty" in connection with the riot because he and his police officers failed to enforce law and order and failed to disperse a mob.

Mob Halts Family

All this happened because Harvey E. Clark Jr., a Negro, and his wife and two children rented an apartment at 6139 W. 19th street in Cicero. Mobs up to 6,000 gathered around the building July 10-12 when the Clarks moved their family belongings into the apartment they expected to be their home.

Before order was restored, martial law was declared and the National Guard was called into action. The Clarks lost their family possessions, and 19 other families living in the building had to move out.

Although Clark, Mrs. Camille De Rose, owner of the building at the time of the riot; Atty. George C. Adams, her attorney at the time of the riot and now said to be owner of the building itself, and others told of the rough treatment given them by police officers in Cicero, the judge felt that the chief was not guilty.

Says Police Inactive

Also testifying for the prosecution was Russell Babcock, executive director of the Illinois Commission on Human Relations who was on the scene of the riot. He told how inactive the police were in quelling the disturbances.

Charles Edwards, Negro agent for the building, told the court that he had shown the apartment to several Negroes, but that in each case Cicero police took down their names, addresses and telephone numbers.

Most damaging evidence was given by Sheriff John Babb, who although a witness for the prosecution apparently provided fuel for the ultimate decision. The sheriff told the court:

"This disturbance was caused by people schooled in stirring up riots. The city and county police did the best they could ...the only tales of violence come from people who make a profession of agitation."

Judge Directs Verdict

In issuing his directed verdict, Judge Leonard declared:

"It is the duty of the state to prove the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. This has not been done. I therefore direct the jury to sign a verdict of not guilty.

Commenting on this decisoin, Clark said:

"What do you expect? I'm not a bit surprised. I hope for better luck in the federal case against Konovsky."

The Chicago Sun-Times blamed State's Atty. John Boyle and Prosecutor James A. Brown for the loss of the case. It noted that Brown had a record of racial opinions in other cases before taking over this one. In an editorial, "Muffing the Cicero Riots Case," the daily said:

"...From what the public now knows of Brown, there is reason to doubt whether he really had his heart in the prosecution of the case...

"In the final analysis, the fact that justice has not been served in the Cicero case is more important than who is to blame for the failure. It is frightening to realize that mobs can prevent anyone—not only Negroes—from moving into certain neighborhoods in Cook county without fear of punishment under our statutes.

"The last chance for serving justice rests with the federal courts, where Konovsky will be tried, along with other Cicero officials, for violating the civil rights of Harvey Clark Jr., central figure in the riots."

Clark, who at the time of the riot worked as a bus driver, now works for a local sausage company as a top salesman. He lives in the Michigan Boulevard Garden apartments, popularly known as the Rosenwald building, with his family.

Nine Cairo Citizens Who Fought School Jim Crow Nabbed for 'Conspiracy'

President of Branch, Regional Officers and Doctors and Dentists Attacked As Aftermath Of Bombings Over Opening of White Schools

CAIRO, Ill. — (ANP) — In direct parallel to action taken in the Cicero riot, Negro victims of bombings and parents of school children were arrested Thursday, Feb. 7 in connection with violence over an attempt to register colored pupils in previously all-white schools here.

Eight Negroes and one white person were arrested on charges of conspiring to endanger the lives of the children.

In the Cicero riot case, a Cook county grand jury indicted three Negroes and two whites on charges of conspiracy to incite persons to riot because a Negro, Harvey E. Clark, Jr., tried to move his family into the all-white suburb of Cicero. All five accused had been victims of the riot, not participants. Indictments in this case were later quashed, and a special Federal grand jury returned indictments against persons involved in the rioting. They now await trial.

The nine persons arrested here were:

David V. Lansden, a white lawyer who has practiced in Cairo for 21 years; Lester Bailey, midwest regional director of the NAACP; Mrs. June Shagaloff, field secretary of the NAACP; Dr. J. W. Wallace, dentist, whose home was fired on; S. W. Madison, chiropodist; Dr. W. A. Fingal physician and president of the local NAACP; the Rev. Arthur Jelks, C. D. Williams, and Mrs. Carey Walker.

All were charged with two separate misdemeanor citations and released on $1,000 bond pending a hearing Thursday, Feb. 14. The warrants were signed by 16 complainants who described themselves as white parents or their agents.

The first citation charged the accused specifically with:

"Endangering the lives and health of children by forcing them by threats and inducements to enter Cairo schools previously attended only by white pupils."

The second citation charged the eight conspired:

"To unlawfully cause or permit children to be placed in such a situation that their lives were endangered."

A series of violence in Cairo, a southern Illinois town which borders on the Mason-Dixon line, was touched off Jan. 27, when three fiery crosses were burned in and around Negro districts.

Parents of 84 Negro pupils were scheduled to attempt to register their children in formerly all-white schools, Monday, Jan. 28.

During the three days that followed, was fired into the home of Dr. Wallace; a bomb destroyed an unoccupied room in the home of Dr. Urbane Bass, and dynamite was found near a business place of Henry Dyson, vice president of the Cairo NAACP. Dr. Wallace also received a threatening letter, warning him to leave the city or suffer the consequences.

Despite the outbreak of violence, Negro parents continued to try to register their children. So far only seven pupils have been accepted in formerly white schools. Four are in grade school; two in junior high school, and one in high school.

Four white men have been arrested in connection with the bombing of Dr. Bass' home. They were: Robert Hogan 26, salesman; Charles H. Miller, Jr., 37, Jerry Dean Ellis, 24, and Roy Downs, 27.

Dr. Bass, his wife and four children were shaken but uninjured by the explosion, which caused an estimated $500 damage to their home.

George Leighton, national representative of the NAACP, said he had no idea who was behind the charges against the nine persons arrested last week.

Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the NAACP conferred in Chicago with Gov. Adlai Stevenson concerning the violence in Cairo, Leighton said.

When asked about the possibility of more violence, Atty. Leighton said in part:

"The situation has eased somewhat in Cairo, and it is not expected to develop into an all-out riot such as that experienced in Cicero last summer.

"The situation here is different from that in Cicero where the whole area was against Negroes moving into the suburb. Here there may be small groups who will fight, but not the whole town."

The NAACP plans to represent some 21 parents in a suit against the Cairo school baord, Leighton said. He added that the NAACP intends to see the issue settled once and for all.

Two Cleared In Cicero Riot Trial

CHICAGO (ANP)—Two defendants in the Cicero riot case were cleared of charges as the second week of testimony was concluded last week in the U. S. District Court of Judge Walter J. LaBuy.

Five defendants still face charges in connection with the anti-Negro riot last summer in the all-white suburban town of Cicero against the moving of a Negro family into an apartment building there. The trial was recessed for the Memorial Day holiday weekend.

ACCUSED IN THIS case originally were seven Cicero officials and policemen, facing charges on two counts—conspiring to keep the family of Harvey E. Clark Jr., a war veteran and college graduate, from moving into an apartment building at 6139 West Nineteenth Street and depriving him of his constitutional rights under the Fourteenth Amendment by not giving him equal protection of the law.

Still facing trial are Police Chief Erwin Konovsky, Town Attorney Nicholas Borkos, Police Lieut. Sergt. Roland Brant, and two police officers, Frank Janecek and Frank A. Lango.

Judge LaBuy freed Town President Henry J. Sandusky and Fire Chief Theodore H. Wesnowski on the grounds that there

Trial Begins For Police Chief In Cicero Riot Case

CHICAGO— (ANP) — Trial for Police Chief Erwin Konovsky began here last week in connection with the Cicero anti-Negro riot last July.

Chief Konovsky is facing charges of "palpable omission of duty" before Judge Frank Leonard of the Criminal Court. He is the only person facing trial of an original six indicted last September by the Cook county grand jury.

The other five were three Negro victims of the riot, a white victim and a white said to have distributed Communist literature in the area several days after the riot. None of these five were at the scene of the riot at the time of the mob violence.

The riot occurred around an apartment building at 6139 W. 19th Street in Cicero, an all-white suburb of Chicago, because Harvey E. Clark, Jr., a Negro, attempted to move there with his wife and two children.

They did move their furniture into their prospective home but lost it when as many as 6,000 whites gathered around the building in a frenzy and destroyed it. Since then, the building has been boarded up.

Asst. State's Atty. James A. Brown in his opening address charged that Konovsky was on the scene at the time of the riot, but failed to take any action against the mobsters.

He added that when the Harveys first tried to move in, "Konovsky bustled them in a car and chased them."

According to Brown, the building then was owned by Mrs. Camille De Rose, but now is owned by a Negro attorney, George Adams. Adams, he said, has assumed a $65,000 first omrtgage on the building and given a $38000 second mortgage.

Konovsky's attorney, Floyd Thompson, former chief justice of the Illinois Supreme Court, tells a different story.

He hinted that Clark may have been used as a tool of Adams' so he could blackjack the people into paying $170,000 for the building as a cooperative, or the people of the community into paying $140,000 to prevent its rental to Negroes, when he had put $103,000 into the building on paper only."

Thompson further charged that "outsiders" including curious persons and troublemakers came into Cicero by the thousands to cause the trouble. He accused Sheriff John Babb of Cook county of causing trouble because he addressed the mob, asking for peace.

In the end, however, state troops were needed to quell the rioting.

Two witnesses have testified for the prosecution—Mrs. De Rose, owner of the building at the time of the riot, and Russell Babcock, head of the Illinois Commission on Human Relations.

Mrs. De Rose told the court how she had been threatened because she hinted that she might accept Negro tenants in her building. She told the court that she had been warned that the town of Cicero would not tolerate Negroes living there.

Riot Sheriff Goes Free

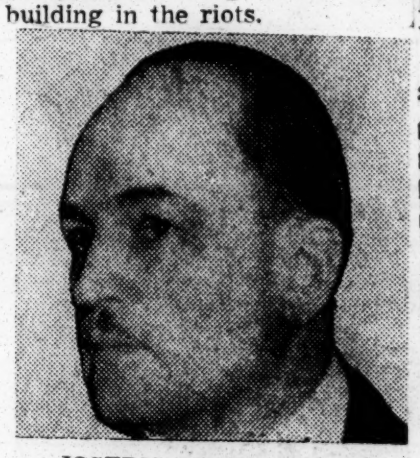
CICERO, Ill.—Police Chief Erwin Konovsky of this city has been acquitted of charges of failing to do his duty in the infamous "Cicero Riots" of last July. Since he was the only one of six indicted persons facing trial by Cook County, the only hope for justice now rests with the Federal courts where new trials are due.

Criminal Court Judge Frank R. Leonard directed the jury to return a not guilty verdict against Konovsky on the grounds that the state had not presented sufficient evidence to warrant conviction.

Immediately there were reports that the state's prosecutors were as much to blame for the non-conviction as anyone. Prosecutor James A. Brown was accused by a local daily of not really having "his heart in the prosecution of the case."

MEANWHILE, the owner of the apartment building which figured in the riots, Mrs. Camille De Rose, claimed in a deposition made to State's Attorney John Boyle that she and Atty. George C. Adams, a Negro, had conspired to "sell" the building to Negroes in order to throw a scare into whites here who would then buy the building at a tremendous profit to her and Adams.

However, other reports said that Attorney Adams now owns the building, having assumed a $65,000 first mortgage and given a $38,000 second mortgage. Harvey Clark, the man who attempted to move his family into the building, thus setting off the riots which involved thousands of whites, now lives in a Chicago apartment and is working as a top salesman for a sausage company there. Mrs. De Rose is suing the city for $160,000 for damages done to the building in the riots.



JOSEPH BEAUHARNAIS
. . . doesn't like Negroes

Police Chief Acquitted In Cicero Case

CHICAGO — Criminal Court Judge Frank R. Leonard late Thursday directed a verdict of acquittal in the jury trial of Cicero police chief Erwin Konovsky on charges of misconduct in connection with riots in the supurb last July.

The judge upheld the contention of defense attorney Floyd Thompson that the police chief could not be held responsible for the actions of his officers in the racial disturbances.

The state wound up its case with the testimony of Harvey E. Clark, a former Chicago Transit Authority bus driver whose attempts to move into an apartment building in Cicero were blocked by the riots.

Hate Leader Sues Courier for $1 Million

CHICAGO—Joseph Beauharnais, infamous hate leader and race baiter who was allegedly prominent on the scene during the bloody Cicero riot last July, filed suit in U. S. District Court here against the Courier Publishing Company for one million dollars.

He charged the paper printed material damaging to his character and standing in the community and names Ted Coleman, city editor of the Courier Chicago edition and writer of the article, as co-defendant.

Beauharnais, well known for his anti-Negro activities in Chicago, is the founder and leader of the now defunct White Circle League, an organization which, according to literature distributed recently, is dedicated to "keeping white neighborhoods white."

The Courier printed a series of articles exposing the activities of the organization and aided in bringing about the revocation of the White Circle League's charter by the State of Illinois and a conviction and maximum fine for Beauharnais in the Chicago courts. Beauharnais was charged with distributing literature defaming to Negroes.

The suit against the Courier charged that certain paragraphs in a magazine article published in a recent edition of the Courier held him up to ridicule and injured his good name in business and the community. He asks a million dollars for his damaged feelings.

Chicago has been a hot spot for racial friction for some time since Negroes were compelled to move into predominantly white neighborhoods. Beauharnais and his organization were accused of taking up the cudgel for biased whites in preventing Negroes from moving into some areas.

Clark, a Negro, testified that Cicero police tossed him out of the apartment he had rented (at 6139 W. 19th Street) and indicated that the incident spurred the crowd to violence that followed.

State troopers were called out to quell the riots, which occurred on July 10, 11 and 12.

Clark said he, his wife, Jeannetta and four friends were inspecting the apartment when a Cicero policeman brandished a revolver and ordered them to the street. He added:

"At the door I was booted out either by Konovsky or another policeman. he crowd had been quiet but it cheered at this sight. Then Konovsky shoved me toward my car."

Cicero Riots Worst Blow To Housing Gains

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Progress toward full citizen rights was made during 1951 in some areas of housing, education and FEPC legislation.

That was the conclusion reached by surveys conducted by Nairo, and the People Take the Lead, official organs of the National Association of Intergroup Relations Officials, and the American Jewish Committee, respectively.

In public and publicly assisted housing gains were made, but in private owned housing, segregation still remained entrenched. Worst blow to progress in this field were the cicero riots set off when Harvey E. Clark Jr. attempted to move his family in a privately owned apartment building in an all-white suburb of Chicago.

Segregation in higher levels of education received a jolt from further court decisions and voluntary action on the part of various schools. But segregation in elementary and high schools remained fairly well entrenched.

The last year saw a shift of strategy in regards to obtaining federal FEPC legislation. Realizing that the 82nd Congress offered no hope of passing a federal law, advocates of such legislation concentrated on getting the President to issue an executive orde rcreating an FEPC. In this, they were successful.

Efforts to get states to pass anti-job discrimination laws met with little success. More progress was made on the local level. Some 24 cities now have FEPC laws, 12 of which were passed this year.

Ohio led the nation with cities that passed FEPC provisions. Nine new cities brought the total to 13 FEPC cities in that state.

Here is a run down on many of the important gains made throughout the country in 1951:

Citizenship: Administrative Measures

New Orleans, La., May: U. S. Circuit court upholds sentencing of Georgia sheriff and deputy to 12 months imprisonment and $1,000 fine for delivering seven Negroes to a masked mob.

Atlanta, Ga., Sept.: Superior court ordered Dekalb county to add Negro names to its grand jury list.

Voluntary Action:

The South, U.S.A.: Some 30 Negroes seek public office in their communities as candidates for city councils and boards of alderman. Five were elected.

Baton Rouge, La.: State Democratic committee opens primaries to Negro voters.

Education: Administrative Measures: ;

Carlsbad and Hobbs, N. M.: Boards of Education act to effect gradual end to segregation in school system, despite failure of anti-segregation bill to pass state legislature.

Tuscon, Ariz.: Superintendent of schools orders faculty and students of previously segregated schools integrated with white faculties and student bodies.

Washington: President "pocket vetoes" bill which would have required racial segregation in schools on military bases and other federal property in 17 states.

Legislation Measures:

Phoenix, Ariz.: Legislature repeals education law requiring segregation, thus permitting individual school boards to establish unsegregated public elementary schools.

Salem, Ore.: Legislature enacts bill outlawing discrimination in vocational, professional and trade schools licensed under state laws.

Court Decisions:

Tarboro, N. C.: Federal District court orders school officials of Washington county to end discrimination against Negro schools in facilities and appropriations.

Voluntary Action:

Ann Arbor, Mich., University of Michigan requires all campus organizations to remove discriminatory clauses from constitutions by 1956.

The South, U.S.A.: Medical college of Virginia, William and Mary college, Richmond Professional School of Social Work, Southern Baptist Seminary, Cincinnati College of Music, Wayland college, Southern Methodist university and Washington university in Missouri all admit first Negro students.

Atlanta, Ga.: Survey by Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel reveals that 20 private schools in most of the southern states have admitted Negro students.

Birmingham, Ala.: Southern Episcopal Synod urges admission of Negro students to theological schools at Sewanee, Tenn., and Lexington, Ky.

Chapel Hill, N. C.: Students protest wins right of five Negro students at University of North Carolina to sit with white students at athletic events.

Employment: Administrative Measures

Boston, Mass.: State Commission Against Discrimination issues cease and desist order against employment agency for refusing to refer complainant to a job because of his color.

Baltimore, Md.: Governor appoints first Negro member of State Board of Education.

New York: Board of Education appoints first Negro as assistant superintendent of schools.

Hartford, Conn.: State Commission on Civil Rights orders local of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers to admit two Negro applicants barred because of race.

New York: Department of Hospitals appoints first Negro to head city medical institution.

New York: State Commission Against Discrimination awards licensed Negro merchant marine officer $4,000 in back pay in conciliation agreement following complaint.

Sacramento, Cal., Attorney general rules that California Employment Stabilization Commission has virtually all powers of a state FEPC.

Court Decisions:

Charlotte, N. C.: U. S. court of appeals reverses lower court decision which permitted railroads to restrict hiring of Negroes as firemen.

St. Louis, Mo.: U. S. Court of Appeals rules that Negro railway porters doing job of brakemen must receive pay and title of that job and be represented in collective bargaining by Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen.

Voluntary Action:

St. Louis, Mo.: McDonnell Aircraft company of America drops racial ban.

New York: Metropolitan Opera company signs first Negro ballet dancer.

Housing: Administrative Measures:

Washington: Housing and Home Finance Agency announces that needs of displaced minority group families and availability of substitute housing will be scrutinized carefully before approval is given to local urban redevelopment plans..

New York: State Commissioner of Housing rules that, for the purposes of the housing law, segregation is discrimination.

Legislation:

New York: Ordinance makes it a misdemeanor for any publicly-assisted housing project to practice discrimination.

Madison, Wis.: Legislature repeals state law which recognized the validity of racial housing project to practice discrimination.

Cincinnati, Ohio: City council prohibits discrimination in urban redevelopment projects.

Other progress was noted in social, profession, business and religious societies.

Cicero Riot Defense Hits Indictments

CHICAGO—(INS)—The Defense Attorney for seven Cicero, Illinois, officials and policemen indicted in connection with last summer's race riots in the suburb attacked the indictment Tuesday as invalid.

Floyd M. Thompson filed a petition before Federal Judge Walter LaBuy for dismissal of the indictment on grounds that it is "uncertain and ambiguous" and contains no allegations supporting the charge that the officials conspired to violate the Federal Civil Rights statute.

The defendants, headed by Cicero Police Chief Erwin Konovsky and Mayor Henry J. Sandusky, were accused of conspiring to force the flight of Harvey Clark, a Negro transit authority driver, and his family when they moved into a Cicero apartment.

Judge LaBuy set the trial date at March 10, allowing the government time to answer Thompson's charges.

NAACP Raps Cairo Officials For Inaction

Says It Plans To Take Controversy Into The Courts

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., — The inaction of State officials in the explosive Cairo school situation was deplored by NAACP Spokesmen after a conference here today with the Illinois Legislative Committee and representatives of Gov. Adlai Stevenson.

The NAACP announced later that it plans legal action in the case.

The meeting was held at the request of the NAACP after a series of racial flare-ups that have accompanied attempts of the association's field workers to help implement an Illinois statute that forbids segregation in public schools.

Cross - burnings, shootings and bombings took place at the time colored children were scheduled to be transferred to previously all-white schools.

Nine Leaders Arrested

Last week, nine persons spearheading the integration movement, including NAACP Field Secretaries June Shagaloff and Lester P. Bailey, were arrested and charged with conspiracy to "endanger the life and health of certain children" involved in the transfer actions.

The Legislative Committee's meeting on Feb. 14, presided over by State Sen. Corneal Davis, was attended also by Joseph Lohman, representing the governor; Attorney-General Ivan A. Elliott; a Mr. Hudson, general counsel for the superintendent of public instruction;

Vernon L. Nickels; Fred Smith, a State representative; a group of committee members present by proxy; and the group representing the parents of the colored pupils, including Miss Shagaloff and Mr. Bailey.

Contends Law Not Clear

Mr. Hudson, under questioning from the group, said that he had

no power to do anything in the Cairo matter because of the "ambiguity" of the Illinois statute that created the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The consensus was that responsibility for supervision of schools rests with this superintendent.

Three Lawyers Named

Three NAACP attorneys have been authorized to represent some 20 parents of colored children in any court action resulting from the current attempt to integrate colored pupils in previously all-white schools in this southern Illinois town.

The attorneys are W. R. Ming Jr., George Leighton and Thurgood Marshall. All have been in Cairo to investigate a series of violence which occurred when colored parents attempted to register their children in formerly white schools.

Ministers Backing Fight

Thurgood Marshall spoke at a mass meeting Feb. 19, and plans were outlined for future action in the controversy.

The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance issued the following public statement on the issue:

"We pledge our moral, physical and financial support in a fight that all rights be accorded to citizens regardless of race, creed or color. We protest and demand that persons responsible for the current violence be punished."

Only 13 Crash Barrier

Meanwhile, it was disclosed that only 13 of 84 colored pupils who applied for admittance have been accepted in former white schools. Apparently 37 have given up trying to register in the schools and returned to colored schools.

However, absenteeism, which marked the appearance of the first colored pupils in white schools, has subsided and there has been no further incidents.

One colored pupil reported that she attended a white school and then decided to return to the colored school, but that a white girl begged her to return to the white school.

On School Bias

Cairoans Stiffen In Fight

NEW YORK—Cairo's rank and file citizens, along with leaders, are more determined than ever to continue their fight against pressure and threats that have attended their efforts to break down segregation in the city's public school system.

'Hello, World! Here's Another Hot One....'

NEWS ITEM—Eight NAACP leaders jailed in Cicero, Ill., for conspiring to "endanger the health of white children" because they are demanding the end of segregated schools which are illegal in Illinois.

This was revealed here last week by June Shagaloff, NAACP field secretary, who, with eight other persons were arrested in Cairo, Ill., and released after posting bond on charges of "conspiring to endanger the life and health of certain children."

Miss Shagaloff is back in New York after posting $1,000 bond on the charges preferred by a local white restaurant owner, Bill Lebo and Clifford E. Jones, a white doughnut salesman.

SUPPORT INCREASES

The eight persons arrested besides Miss Shagaloff were: Dr. W. A. Fingel, president of the Cairo NAACP; Mrs. Rosetta Walker, mother of two children who have been transferred to a "white school"; Dr. J. C. Wallace, a leader of the branch NAACP, and whose home was the target of a shotgun blast on the night Jan. 28; the Rev. Arthur Jelks, C. P. Williams, David V. Lansden, white attorney for the local group; Dr. W. S. Madison and Lester Bailey, NAACP field secretary.

Miss Shagaloff reports that strong additional support is coming from the community following the bombings, cross burnings and efforts to intimidate parents who sought to have their children transferred to the schools nearest their homes.

GIVEN MORAL BACKING

According to Miss Shagaloff, those colored children who have succeeded in having transfers effected have been given considerable moral support from some white pupils who want them as fellow pupils.

Despite the fact that it is reported some children were told they would not be allowed to participate in extra-curricula activities, and might be further mistreated, no colored pupils have yet given indication that they have been treated badly.

MISS JUNE SHAGALOFF
. . . posted Cairo bond

The parents of transferees are said to be under pressure of various sorts, such as being warned of having public credit and bank credit cut off. Three NAACP lawyers have been authorized to represent some twenty parents of the colored children in court action.

They are Attys. W. R. Ming Jr., George Leighton and Thurgood Marshall, all of whom have been to the Southern Illinois town to investigate violence that occurred when the colored parents first began to attempt the transfer of their children to the "white schools."

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Illinois

Leaders Dig Deep To Fight Hatred Of Cicero, Illinois

CHICAGO (ANP)—Chicago's Negro leaders last week publicly demonstrated that they are ready to fight for full citizenship rights, not only in spirit, but with their pocketbooks. They were among the top contributors to the Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination at its annual luncheon.

Guest speaker at this meeting, held to raise $10,000 needed to produce half of 1952's operating budget, was Rudolph Halley, newly elected president of the New York City council and more famed as chief counsel of the recent Kefauver Senate Crime Investigating Committee.

Halley demanded a two-point means of providing equal citizenship to all American citizens, regardless of race or religion—conscientious attention to civil rights by voters, and an unbiased attitude by public officials.

Before Halley spoke, many of the 500 persons attending the luncheon pledged gifts to the Chicago Council, which last summer led the fight for prosecution of persons responsible for the Cicero anti-Negro riot in the Chicago suburb.

Heading the list of contributors was the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance company which gave one of two donations of $500. The Unity Mutual Life Insurance company pledged the fourth highest gift, $300.

Dr. Percy L. Julian, one of the world's top scientists, gave $200. During the past year his home has suffered attacks by white citizens in the suburb of Oak Park.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Other leading Negro contributions included $50 each from Geo. Leighton, president of the Chicago branch NAACP and attorney for the Clarks, Negro victims of the Cicero riot; John Sengstacke, publisher of the Chicago Defender; Clifford Campbell, the Chicago branch of the National Alliance of Postal Employes, and a group of members from the Bethel AME Church.

The Rev. C. Baker Pearle, pastor of Bethel AME, pronounced the invocation at the luncheon. Campbell, Leighton, and Sengstacke also were listed as sponsors for the luncheon. Also on this list were Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Taylor.

In his address, Halley discarded much of his prepared speech to make positive statements concerning democracy for all American citizens. He praised the end of bias at the Stuyvesant Town housing project in New York, the non-biased employment rolls of the Illinois State Employment Service, and the future role of television in awakening the American citizens to his duties. He also warned against cynicism in morals of the American people.

He said in part:

"Two things are needed to awaken America to its need to practice democracy. One is aroused public opinion . . . Television can do much to bring this problem to the American people. It brings public affairs right into the home. It makes the housewife part of these affairs; it makes her a leader . . .

Cicero Riot Trial To Begin May 19

CHICAGO (ANP) — The trial of seven officials of Cicero, scene of a riot last summer, will begin May 19 in the U.S. District Court.

All seven men facing trial are generally accused of violating Federal civil rights statutes in connection with the attempt of a colored family to move into an apartment in Cicero, an all-white town.

Judge Walter LaBuy last week refused to quash a two-count Federal indictment against the defendants.

County Fails To Act

In past court action, Cook County prosecution of persons guilty of fomenting the riot, which attracted mobs of several thousand, last July, failed.

Facing trial are:

Henry J. Sandusky, recently re-elected town president, Erwin Konovsky, chief of police; Theodore H. Wesolowski, fire marshal, and Nicholas Berkes, town attorney, on charges of conspiracy to keep a colored veteran from moving into Cicero.

Also Police Sgt. Roland Brani and Patrolmen Frank Janecek and Frank A. Lange as well as Sandusky, Konovsky and Berkos are to be tried on a second count of depriving the veteran, Harvey E. Clark Jr., of his civil rights.

Property Destroyed

Clark, who tried to move his family into an apartment at 6139 W. 19th St. in Cicero, was rebuffed by a mob of whites. He managed to move his household property into the apartment, but never lived there.

On the night of July 12, the mobsters surrounded the building, eventually destroying all of Clark's property and forcing white families in the building to move. It took the Illinois National Guard to quell the violence after city police failed to take action.

A Cook County grand jury indicted three colored persons — although none took part in the violence—including Clark's attorney, George Leighton, and three white persons, including Konovsky. All the indictments except the one against Konovsky were thrown out of court.

Judge Frees Konovsky

Konovsky eventually was found not guilty when a Criminal Court judge directed such a verdict.

Under count one, the defendants are accused specifically of conspiring to prevent any colored persons from ever moving into the town of Cicero, particularly into the building involved in the riot.

The count lists 15 different acts beginning March 31, and climaxed by the riot which began July 12.

Constitution Violated

Count two charges that the defendants violated the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution by depriving Clark of his property without due process of law and also denying him equal protection of the law in connection with his right to lease property.

Clark, his wife, and two children now live in the Michigan Blvd. Gardens apartment, popularly known as the Rosenwald Building, in Chicago.

Cicero Landlady Carries Pistol Into Courtroom, Gets Two Years

CHICAGO, June 13 (AP).—Mrs. Camille de Rose, who owned the all-white suburban Cicero apartment building where race rioting broke out in July, brought a loaded pistol into Criminal Court today and was sentenced to two years for contempt.

Policemen, advised in advance that she had threatened to "shoot up the court if I don't get justice," seized her and took the pistol from her briefcase when she started shouting in court in protest against a continuance in an embezzlement case.

Judge Wilbert F. Crowley immediately sentenced her to a year in the county jail for contempt of court.

Then she screamed: "Give me life. I want to read, 'Cicero housewife gets life for being a landlady.'"

Judge Crowley then sentenced her to another year and ordered her held in the Criminal Courts Building bullpen until she is examined by a psychiatrist.

Mrs. de Rose told Judge Crowley later that she never had threatened to shoot up the courtroom to shoot any one in court. She said she carried the pistol for protection only. Judge Crowley set a hearing for June 23 to consider vacating the contempt sentence.

The court demonstration occurred when Mrs. de Rose appeared as a key prosecution witness against George C. Adams, attorney indicted on an embezzlement charge in the purchase of a mortgage for her on a West Side building a year ago.

She formerly owned the apartment building in Cicero, which was stoned by a mob of more than 5,000 persons when she rented living quarters to Harvey Clark jr., a Negro bus driver. National Guard troops were called out to restore order after three days of rioting.

Negro Leaders Top Contributors at Meeting Of Group That Led Fight Against Cicero Riots

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Chicago's Negro leaders last week publicly demonstrated that they are ready to fight for full citizenship rights, not only in spirit, but with their pocketbooks. They were among the top contributors to the Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination at its annual luncheon.

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Heading the list of contributors was the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance company which gave one of two donations of $500. The Unity Mutual Life Insurance company pledged the fourth highest gift, $100.

Dr. Percy L. Julian, one of the world's top scientists, gave $200. During the past year his home has suffered attacks by white citizens in the suburb of Oak Park.

Other leading Negro contributions included $50 each from George Leighton, president of the Chicago branch NAACP and attorney for the Clarks, Negro victims of the Cicero riot; John Sengstacke, publisher of the Chicago Defender; Clifford Campbell, the Chicago branch of the National Alliance of Postal Employes, and a group of members from the Bethel AME church.

The Rev. C. Baker Pearle, pastor of Bethel AME, pronounced the invocation at the luncheon. Campbell, Leighton, and Sengstacke also were listed as sponsors for the luncheon. Also on this list were Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Taylor.

Negro, Center Of Cicero Riots, Details Good Aftermath

CHICAGO—(NC) — A number of encouraging after-effects grew out of the Cicero, Ill., riots of last summer, Harvey Clark, Negro salesman whose attempt to move his family into a Cicero apartment building touched off the disturbances, declared in an address here.

Mr. Clark spoke to a capacity audience at a meeting of the Catholic Interracial Council unit of Loyola University. He said the public response that came in the wake of the riots "reassured me of the principles of American democracy."

A bus driver at the time of the riots, Mr. Clark explained that he rented the Cicero apartment because it was only two miles from the terminal of his bus run. He said he had to ride more than 20 miles to and from work to his former apartment and sought to save two hours for travel a day.

Mr. Clark explained that he gave up his bus job because of his concern for the safety of his passengers. His route took him to the boundary between Chicago and Cicero, he said, and it was impossible to answer the many questions asked by his passengers, pay attention to driving and collecting fares. He now is employed as a salesman by a meat products company.

His wife accompanied Mr. Clark to the meeting, also spoke briefly and aided him in answering questions. The Clarks are college graduates and now reside with their two children on Chicago's South Side. He commented: "Fortunately the children have forgotten all about the incident."

* * *

HE LISTED the four principal developments that followed the riots as:

1. A program was instituted at the University of Chicago designed to train policemen of various large cities to cope with similar situations. Cicero police last summer failed to disperse the mobs which gathered nightly at the disputed apartment building until young hoodlums had wrecked the place and State Troopers had been called in by Gov. Adlai Stevenson.

2. A program of "general enlightenment" has been started to acquaint Cicero residents with the basic facts of human relations. Mr. Clark emphasized that only a small part of Cicero's citizens were involved in the rioting, and added that he had received many letters of apology from Cicero residents.

3. There was a quick response of many decent American people who sent generous offerings to get the Clark family back to a normal life.

4. The incident has broadened the thinking of many people. He received more than 3,000 letters, 99 per cent of them sympathetic, some of them from persons living in the deep South and others from foreign countries.

Cicero Riot Judge Frees 2

Jury Told Cops Let Mob Loot Apartment

CHICAGO (ANP) — A Cicero police sergeant ordered one of his subordinates to "chase" a colored war veteran's family out of that lily-white town, and a lieutenant walked away when he was asked to help put down the mob there, it was testified during the Federal District Court trial of seven Cicero officials in connection with the infamous riots in Cicero, last July.

Despite this and other damaging evidence that the indicted officials conspired to deprive the veteran, Harvey C. Clark Jr., and his family, of their constitutional right to equal protection of the law, the judge hearing the case before an all-white jury dismissed two of the defendants before he recessed the trial, Thursday, for the Memorial Day week end.

Testimony was offered by policemen, themselves, to the effect that Cicero police not only "failed to exert themselves" to stop thousands of rioters who looted the apartment house into which Clark had moved his furniture, but also tried to keep the veteran from moving into the building before he had done so.

Ordered Clark Chased

One of the patrolmen on the force, Charles J. Kucera, told the jury that he heard Sgt. Roland Brani, a defendant, order Patrolman Frank A. Lange, another defendant, to "chase" the Clarks out of town by July 8.

Patrick C. Tuoby, chief of Cook County Highway Police, testified that when he asked Police Lt. Chris Rooney for the fire hose with which to disperse the mob, Rooney just walked away from him.

Ralph Hartsough, superintendent of the Central Cold Storage Company testified that he saw only one officer make an attempt to halt the mob and that no other policemen tried to help him.

Warned By Chief

He said when he asked another officer why nothing was done, he received this reply: "Colored people are trying to move in. Our chief warned these people to stay out of here."

The defendants who were freed by Judge Walter J. LaBuy, Thursday, were Town President Henry J. Sandusky and Fire Chief Theodore H. Wesolowski. The judge dismissed their cases on the grounds that there was no evidence against them.

5 Facing Trial

Still facing trial, in additon to Officers Brani, and Lange are Police Chief Erwin Konovsky, Town Attorney Nicholas Borkos and Patrolman Janecek.

The Clark family lost all their posessions in the July 10-12 rioting, which was not quelled until Gov. Adelai Stevenson ordered the State National Guard into the area to restore order.

Two Cleared In Cicero Riot Trial

CHICAGO (ANP)—Two defendants in the Cicero riot case were cleared of charges as the second week of testimony was concluded last week in the U. S. District Court of Judge Walter J. LaBuy.

Five defendants still face charges in connection with the anti-Negro riot last summer in the all-white suburban town of Cicero against the moving of a Negro family into an apartment building there. The trial was recessed for the Memorial Day holiday week-end.

ACCUSED IN THIS case originally were seven Cicero officials and policemen, facing charges on two counts—conspiring to keep the family of Harvey E. Clark Jr., a war veteran and college graduate, from moving into an apartment building at 6139 West Nineteenth Street and depriving him of his constitutional rights under the Fourteenth Amendment by not giving him equal protection of the law.

Judge LaBuy freed Town President Henry J. Sandusky and Fire Chief Theodore H. Wesolowski on the grounds that there was no case against them.

Still facing trial are Police Chief Erwin Konovsky, Town Attorney Nicholas Borkos, Police Sergt. Roland Brani, and two police officers, Frank Janecek and Frank A. Lango.

Peekskill, N.Y. Riot-1949
Paul Robeson Concert

Robeson, Leftists Lose Suit In Westchester Riots

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—A $2.1 million damage suit filed by Singer Paul Robeson and 29 other leftists after two riots near Peekskill, N. Y., was dismissed yesterday by United States District Judge Sylvester J. Ryan.

The 30 plaintiffs sued two Westchester County veterans' groups, Westchester County District Attorney George M. Fanelli and 13 others.

They sued in 1949 after two concerts the Negro singer attempted to give ended in disorder. They claimed the defendants organized a mob to prevent Mr. Robeson from performing.

The defendants, several of them county officials or State policemen, asked dismissal, saying Federal Court had no jurisdiction.

However, Judge Sylvester J. Ryan ruled it did, basing his decision on a United States Court of Appeals ruling in a California case.

The United States Supreme Court reversed the Court of Appeals later, and the defendants again asked dismissal. Judge Ryan then granted it.

sault and deprivation of civil rights.

Won Right to Trial

The defendants then sought to have the suit dismissed, contending that the Federal court had no jurisdiction. The court ruled, however, that it did have jurisdiction and granted the plaintiffs the right to a trial.

The jurist's action was based on a decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals in California in a similar case, but not involving left - wing factions.

However, the United States Supreme court reversed the California decision last June. The plaintiffs then sought to amend the original complaint and at the same time the defendants made four new motions for dismissal based on the Supreme court ruling. The four motions were granted.

Robeson In Appeal On $2,000,000 Suit

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y. (ANP) —This week Paul Robeson and 29 others are appealing the dismissal of their $2,100,000 damage suit based on riots following two concerts by the well-known singer near Peekskill, N. Y., in 1949.

$2 Million N.Y. Riot Suit Lost

Paul Robeson Led 29 Peekskill Plaintiffs

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Paul Robeson, noted singer, and 29 others lost a $2,100,000 damage suit in Federal court last week against Westchester County officials and two veterans' organizations as a result of the two Peekskill riots in 1949.

The riots occurred in August and September, 1949, when Robeson attempted to give concerts in Peekskill. The suit was filed shortly after the second riot and named among the defendants George M. Fanelli, District Attorney of Westchester County.

The plaintiffs, among them Howard Fast, writer, asked for amounts ranging from $10,000 to $200,000 for personal injuries, assault and deprivation of civil rights.

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